

**Appointment of SCs/STs in the high level posts in major Ports**

2464. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SC/ST Parliamentarians in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on 17.12.1996, 1.9.1997 and 23.7.1998 have demanded appointment/posting of persons belonging to the SCs/STs to the posts/assignments in the higher echelons of administration under Government;

(b) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the above category of posts to the Board of Management/ Governing/Executive Councils of the Dockyard Labour Boards in all the major Ports during the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) the number of SC/ST persons among them and their percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Creation of mechanised coal handling facilities at Paradeep Port**

2465. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared the proposal for the creation of mechanised coal handling facilities at Paradeep Port in Orissa;

(b) if so, the cost of the project;

(c) whether it would be funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB); and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to set up mechanised coal handling berths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):